

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA
ABSTRACT

Public Servants – Forest Department – Allegations of corruption of demand and acceptance of bribe against Sri. Motakuri Venugopal, Forest Range Officer, Mulugu of Warangal North Division, Warangal District – Trapped on 22-03-2014 – Sanction of prosecution - Accorded – Orders – Issued.

ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (For.III) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Rt.No. 176

Dated: 21-10-2017

O R D E R :-

Whereas, Sri. Motakuri Venugopal, S/o Laxmi Narsaiah worked as Forest Range Officer, Mulugu from 15-08-2012 to 22-03-2014 and by virtue of the post held by him, he falls under the category of Public servants as defined under section 2(c) of the Prevention of corruption Act, 1988.

2. And whereas, Sri. Gottiparthi Rajaiah, S/o. Mallaiah, aged 61 years, Occ: Civil Contractor (Retd. Govt. Employee) (Complainant), R/o. H.No.1-7-163, Revenue Colony, Hanamkonda, Warangal District.

3. And whereas, Sri. Gottiparthi Rajaiah, S/o. Mallaiah (Complainant) lodged a report before Deputy Superintendent of Police, Anti Corruption Bureau, Warangal stating that he is a Retired Government Employee (formerly worked as Sub-Inspector of Police) and now working as a Civil Contractor. One Sri Ramu, Civil Contractor was allotted the work for construction of residential quarter of Forest Guard W/Rs. 12,58,314/- by the Divisional Forest Officer, Warangal. In turn, Sri. Ramu has authorized him to attend the same work in writing and informed the same to the Divisional Forest Officer by marking a copy of the said authorization. He started the construction work in the month of November, 2013. Earlier, he was sanctioned the bill Rs.3,04,345/- as 1st part bill. In the 3rd week of February 2014, he met Sri. Motakuri Venugopal, Forest Range Officer, Mulugu and when requested to process for the completed work for sanction of bill, Sri Motakuri Venugopal, Forest Range Officer, Mulugu demanded Rs.15,000/- as bribe. But he told Sri Motakuri Venugopal, Forest Range Officer, Mulugu saying that he is in loss for this construction work and unable to give such demanded bribe. Then after also, he met Sri Motakuri Venugopal, Forest Range Officer, Mulugu continuously in the last week of February 2014 and in the 1st week of this month, but again he reiterated the earlier demand of bribe. Finally, today i.e., on 19-03-2014 he met Sri Motakuri Venugopal, Forest Range Officer, Mulugu again demanded Rs.15,000/- as bribe. But he expressed his inability to give such huge amount as bribe and on his repeated requests Sri. Motakuri Venugopal, Forest Range Officer, Mulugu reduced the bribe amount to Rs.12,000/- and told that only on payment of said bribe amount, he will attend the process. As there was no other way, he agreed to give the said demanded bribe of Rs.12,000/- and when informed that he has no money now itself, Sri Motakuri Venugopal, Forest Range Officer, Mulugu asked him to bring the bribe amount on Saturday (22-03-2014) to his office at Mulug. Earlier Sri. Motakuri Venugopal, Forest Range Officer, Mulugu recorded as 13 pillars and 13 pits instead of 14 pillars and 14 pits. As he was not willing to pay the bribe amount to Sri. Motakuri Venugopal, Forest Range Officer, Mulugu, he submitted a written report, dated. 19-03-2014 at 1800 hours to the Deputy Superintendent of Police, Anti Corruption Bureau, Warangal to take necessary legal action against Sri. Motakuri Venugopal, Forest Range Officer, Mulugu.

4. And whereas, after observing all the formalities a case in Crime No.6/ACB-WRL/2014 U/s 7 of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 was registered on 22-03-2014 @ 10.00 hours by Deputy Superintendent of Police, Anti Corruption Bureau, Warangal against Sri. Motakuri Venugopal, Forest Range Officer, Mulugu and arrangements were made for laying a trap.

5. And whereas, it is alleged that during trap proceedings when Sri. Gottiparthi Rajaiah met Sri. Motakuri Venugopal, Forest Range Officer, Mulugu in office chamber of the Forest Range Office, Mulugu located in the Forest Complex, Mulugu, Warangal District, he asked Sri Gottiparthi Rajaiah to give the demanded bribe. Accordingly when Sri. Gottiparthi Rajaiah was about to give the bribe amount, Sri. Motakuri Venugopal, Forest Range Officer, Mulugu opened the brown wrapper of a file found on the left side of office table and asked him to keep the bribe amount in the said file and he was trapped by the officials of Anti-Corruption Bureau. When the contact portion of the tainted currency i.e., 1st brown sheet and the first page of file subjected to Phenolphthalein Test, it was turned into pink colour and the tainted amount of Rs.12,000/- was recovered at the instance of the Accused Officer from the said file. The Deputy Superintendent of Police, Anti Corruption Bureau, Warangal Range, Warangal seized the tainted currency notes, contact portion of file i.e., the brown wrapper and the first page of the file bearing file No.137/OR/M/2009-10, POR No.4566/92, Dated: 10-02-2010 which contains (70) pages appeal petition pertaining to one Sri. Challa Yadagiri and resultant solutions duly attested by the mediators.

6. And whereas, the above said acts of Sri. Motakuri Venugopal, Forest Range Officer, Mulugu constitute offences punishable U/sec. 7, 13(2) r/w 13(1)(d) of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988.

7. And whereas, the Government of Telangana State, being the competent authority to remove Sri. Motakuri Venugopal, Forest Range Officer, Mulugu from the service after fully and carefully examining the material i.e., F.I.R., pre-trap & post trap proceedings, the statements of witnesses, all the relevant documents and final report of the Director General, Anti Corruption Bureau including the official favour file placed before them in respect of the said allegations and the circumstances of the case consider that Sri. Motakuri Venugopal, Forest Range Officer, Mulugu should be prosecuted in a court of law.

8. Now therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred by Clause (b) of sub-section (1) of Section 19 of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988, the Government of Telangana, hereby accord sanction for prosecution of Sri. Motakuri Venugopal, Forest Range Officer, Mulugu for the above said offences punishable under sections 7, and sub-section (2) of section 13 read with clause (d) of sub-section (1) of Section 13 of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 and for any other cognizant offences punishable under any other provisions of law for the time being in force in respect of the aforesaid acts and for taking cognizance of the said offences by a court of competent jurisdiction.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF TELANGANA)

(DR. RAJAT KUMAR)
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
The Director General, Anti-corruption Bureau, Telangana, Hyderabad.